

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows.

1. (currently amended) A steel manufacturing dust ~~solidified~~, which is a solid product formed by pressing and forming a dust, occurring in exhaust gases within a melting furnace during an iron and steel manufacturing process and subsequently collected by a dust collector, and containing[[,]] iron as a principal component, ~~iron occurring during an iron and steel manufacturing process.~~
2. (currently amended) The steel manufacturing dust ~~solidified~~ as claimed in claim 1, wherein the pressing and forming is caused by a mold.
3. (currently amended) The steel manufacturing dust ~~solidified~~ as claimed in claim 1, ~~which wherein the solid dust product~~ is a columnar body having a round cross-sectional shape.
4. (currently amended) The steel manufacturing dust ~~solidified~~ as claimed in claim 2, ~~which wherein the solid dust product~~ is 50 to 100 mm in diameter and 30 to 80 mm in height.
5. (currently amended) The steel manufacturing dust ~~solidified~~ as claimed in claim 4, ~~in which wherein~~ the ratio of the height relative to the diameter is within the range of 0.7 to 0.8.
6. (currently amended) A process of manufacturing a steel manufacturing dust ~~solidified~~, ~~in which wherein~~ a dust, occurring in exhaust gases within a melting furnace during an iron and steel manufacturing process and subsequently collected by a dust collector, and containing iron as a principal component, ~~iron occurring during an iron and steel manufacturing process~~ is charged into and pressed within a mold to provide a solid product.
7. (currently amended) The process of manufacturing the steel manufacturing dust ~~solidified~~ as claimed in claim 6, wherein the mold is in the form of a vertically oriented cylindrical chamber.

8. (currently amended) The process of manufacturing the steel manufacturing dust solidified as claimed in claim 6, wherein a powder of carbon, aluminum or the like generated during the iron and steel manufacturing process is mixed in the dust as a binder, and is then charged into the mold.
9. (currently amended) A manufacturing apparatus for a steel manufacturing dust solidified, ~~which is operable to press and form a dust containing as a principal component iron occurring during an iron and steel manufacturing process to provide a solid product, which apparatus comprises~~ing:
a mold in the form of a cylindrical chamber[.];
a lid member for closing one end of [[this]] the mold[.]; and
a plunger capable of advancing from [[the]] an opposite end into the mold to press [[the]] a dust, occurring in exhaust gases within a melting furnace during an iron and steel manufacturing process and subsequently collected by a dust collector, and containing iron as a principal component, within the mold.
10. (currently amended) The manufacturing apparatus for the steel manufacturing dust solidified as claimed in claim 9, wherein the mold is oriented vertically and the end[[.]] at which the lid member of [[this]] the mold is provided[[.]] is [[on]] at a lower side.